

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSLO 01010 150959 Z

12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 T-03 GAC-01 OIC-04 ARA-11 EA-11 NEA-10 OMB-01

RSR-01 /162 W

----- 059321

R 150930 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6413

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1010

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN OAU

SUBJECT: US ATTENDANCE AT OSLO CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 46443

PARIS 6272

1. ON RECEIPT OF THE DEPT'S DECISION THAT THE US GOVT
WILL NOT BE REPRESENTED AT THE OSLO CONFERENCE ON APARTHEID
AND COLONIALISM I IMMEDIATELY URGED MY FRENCH COLLEAGUE,
COUNT VILLENEUVE, TO PERSUADE HIS OWN GOVT ALSO TO REFRAIN
FROM SENDING A DELEGATE TO THIS CONFERENCE.

2. VILLENEUVE SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF OUR PREVIOUS
TALKS AND HIS OWN ASSESSMENTS ON THIS MATTER HE HAD SENT
A STRONG RECOMMENDATION TO PARIS ENUMERATING THE REASONS
WHY SUCH A CONFERENCE WOULD NOT BE TO THE ADVANTAGE OF
HIS COUNTRY, BUT AS HE TOLD ME AT THE TIME, THE FRENCH
DECISION WOULD BE VERY MUCH INFLUENCED BY THE US AND UK
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PAGE 02 OSLO 01010 150959 Z

STAND. NOW WITH BOTH THE UK AND THE US AGAINST ATTENDING
HE FELT THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THAT FRANCE MAY ALSO ABSTAIN.

3. BOTH MY BRITISH AND FRENCH COLLEAGUES HAVE FELT ALL
ALONG AS I HAVE THAT THE ADVANTAGES OF ATTENDING ARE OUT-
WEIGHED BY THE DISADVANTAGES. NOT EVEN THE NORWEGIAN HOSTS
OF THE CONFERENCE ARE AT ALL HAPPY ABOUT IT AND TO DIGNIFY
IT BY THE ATTENDANCE OF THREE OF THE GREAT POWERS WOULD PUT
ITS SIGNIFICANCE OUT OF ALL PROPORTION TO ITS IMPORTANCE.
WE SHOULD NOT BE PUT IN THE POSITION OF DEFENDING OURSELVES
FROM PROPAGANDA ATTACKS AT A FORUM WHICH IS PATENTLY ONE
SIDED. NEITHER PORTUGAL NOR SOUTH AFRICA, THE PRIMARY
OBJECTIVES OF THE ATTACK, HAVE EVER BEEN ASKED TO SEND
DELEGATES. CROWE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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CAPETOWN
LISBON
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Type: TE
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